

## ABSTRACT

A heat-resistant polyester container wherein the temperature T is not lower than 120°C at a moment when the rate of contraction in the barrel portion of the polyester container represented by the following formula is 0.66%,

$$\text{Ratio of contraction (\%)} = (\text{amount of contraction} / \text{gauge length}) \times 100 \quad \text{--- (1)}$$

wherein the amount of contraction is measured from a test piece cut from the barrel portion of the polyester container so as to possess a gauge length of 20 mm in compliance with TMA without pre-loading while elevating the temperature at a rate of 3°C /min after 30°C is exceeded.

The polyester container exhibits excellent heat resistance, and enables the retort-sterilization to be executed after the food or beverage has been filled and sealed without permitting the barrel portion of the container to be deformed.